

James River and Kanawha Canal: Pumphouse  
Richmond (Independent City)  
Virginia

HAER No. VA-34

HAER  
VA,  
44-RICH,  
100A-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL & DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
P. O. Box 37127  
Washington, D. C. 20013-7127

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James River and Kanawha Canal Historic District:  
Pumphouse

HAER No. VA-34

Location: Richmond, Henrico County, Virginia

Date of Construction: 1883

Builder/Designer: Unknown

Original Owner: James River and Kanawha Company

Present Owner: Richmond Metropolitan Authority, Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad, and various public and private owners

Original Use: Pumphouse

Present Use: Abandoned

Significance: The 1883 pumphouse replaced an earlier one which pumped water to the reservoir above. The two-story stone building consists of a long central block with flanking cross pavilions which project slightly at either end of the long facades. The basement area once housed the pumping machinery and the large open room above was used for many of the city's social events. Offices and twin curving stairs flank these two large rooms. Details of this structure include a slate roof with iron cresting and reinforced concrete window arcade on both sides of the social hall.

Transmitted by: Jean Yearby, HAER, 1984